

Dear Sirs,

Allowing a corporate media conglomerate to make this type of million dollar in-kind donation to the Bush-Cheney re-election campaign, and so close to the election, would mean the FCC is not doing its job of regulating the public airwaves.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

This brash action is clearly a more egregious breach of public decency - and more dangerous to our democracy - than anything that happened during the Superbowl half-time show this year. The FCC must take action to protect the public interest.

Thank you.